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July 19, 2000

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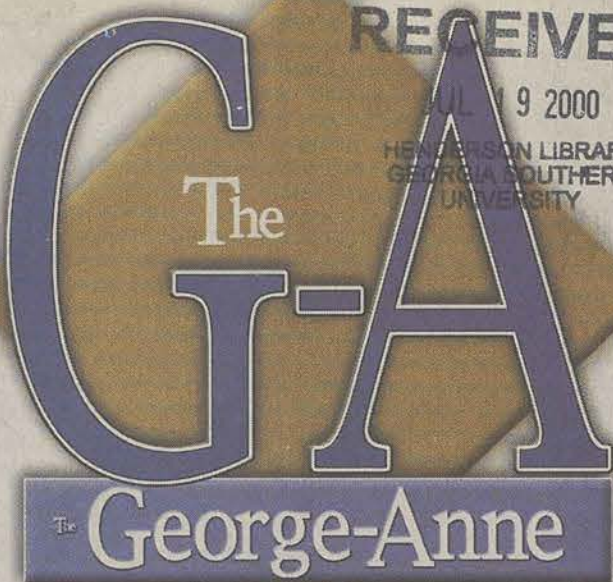
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SPORTS

Thrashers
first round
pick to return
to Wisconsin

This 19 year old decides to forgo a move to the NHL after being drafted by the Atlanta Thrashers.



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**LAST
EDITION OF
THE
SUMMER...**

Page 6

Vol. 73 No. 15

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Senator Coverdell dies of stroke at age 61

The Associated Press and Staff Reports

ATLANTA (AP) — Sen. Paul Coverdell, a longtime Republican politician in Georgia who became a congressional workhorse and rose quickly to a leadership post, died Tuesday of a stroke. He was 61.

Coverdell had surgery Monday to relieve pressure from a cerebral hemorrhage but died from swelling in the brain, Piedmont Hospital said. The senator, who had reported no serious health problems in the past, was hospitalized Saturday night after complaining of severe headaches.

Coverdell, who served as Peace Corps director in the Bush administration, was first elected to the Senate in 1992 by defeating incumbent Democrat Wyche Fowler Jr.

He became the fourth-leading Republican in the Senate, serving as GOP Conference secretary and sitting on several committees, including agriculture, finance and foreign relations.

He also was the Senate liaison for George W. Bush's presidential campaign and had been busy preparing for the Republican National Convention, which begins in Philadelphia in two weeks.

"We have lost a great leader, a great American, a great friend," Jack Kingston, Georgia's 1st district Republican congressman, said. "He really tried to do what was best, and that's what everybody admired and respected about Paul. You don't just call someone like that a Republican, you call him a real statesman and he was one."

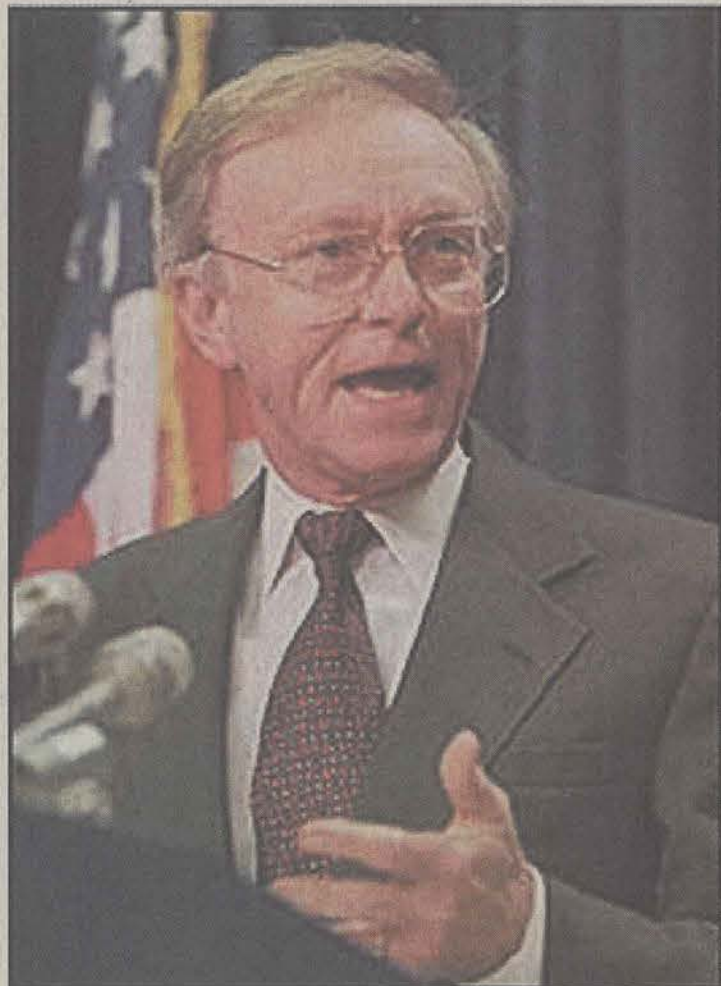
Brian Dart, former chairman of the College Republicans here at GSU lamented the loss for the state of Georgia.

"I think the loss of Paul Coverdell will hurt this state for years to come," Dart said.

Georgia Gov. Roy Barnes, a Democrat, has the option of appointing a successor to serve until a special election in November. The term will expire in 2004.

Coverdell built a reputation as an effective, behind-the-scenes operative for Senate Republicans, working long hours to organize his colleagues into a unified voice.

Senate Majority Leader Trent



Sen. Coverdell

Lott, who announced Coverdell's death in the Senate, expressed his sympathy to Coverdell's widow, and with his voiced choked with emotion, he added, "Our hearts break also."

Coverdell's signature issue in the Senate for the past four years was education, specifically his proposal to expand higher education savings accounts to allow tax-free withdrawals for school expenses from kindergarten through high school.

President Clinton vetoed the measure in 1998, and forced Republicans to pull it from a year-end budget bill in 1997 under threat of a veto. The president maintained that the measure would hurt public schools and benefit only wealthy families. Coverdell had been pushing the legislation again this year.

Coverdell also was one of Clinton's most outspoken critics in the Senate, both on domestic and foreign policy issues.

Coverdell and former House Speaker Newt Gingrich were the architects of the modern Republican Party in Georgia. During 16 years in the Georgia Senate, Coverdell was the best known GOP office holder in a state that was dominated from top to bottom by Democrats.

His party-building efforts paid off in 1998, when Coverdell became the first Republican to win re-election to the Senate from Georgia since Reconstruction.

Coverdell was born Jan. 29, 1939, in Des Moines, Iowa, and received a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1961 from the University of Missouri.

He served two years in the Army in Okinawa, Korea and Taiwan before helping his parents start the family's Atlanta insurance and financial services business, Coverdell & Co.

He was married to the former Nancy Nally of Sandy Springs, Ga. They had no children.

Internet hacker breaks into GSU computer systems

By John Bryson
News Editor

Raymond Torricelli, 20, of New Rochelle, NY is allegedly responsible for hacking into the GSU computer system and compiling user names and passwords in February 1998, according to a criminal complaint filed by the U.S. Attorney's Office in New York City.

Torricelli was arrested last Wednesday in New York for allegedly hacking into the network system run by the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), using two of their computers to cull network data and setting up an internet chat room devoted to hacking.

Torricelli, also known as "rolex," is the head of an internet hacker group known as "#conflict."

Torricelli's home computer system contained data that was intercepted from GSU computers using a "sniffer" program around February 24, 1998, according to NASA special agent Mark Smith. The data included network traffic, usernames and passwords for the GSU system

that were valid on that date of transfer.

Torricelli set up an account on the GSU system as username "rewt" and password "unfhax,"



the same username and password used to access the JPL computers.

Over 76,000 passwords were found on Torricelli's home computer, according to the complaint, which he used to access over 800 computers across the country.

In addition, special agent Smith's investigation turned up evidence of unauthorized credit

card use by Torricelli, approximately \$10,000 in credit card fraud that included a \$6,256 purchase of computer equipment.

Also, the investigation revealed that Torricelli was making \$300-400 week for "spamming" a pornographic website known as "xpic." (Spamming is the sending of large volumes of unsolicited messages to persons over the internet, frequently to advertise a commercial activity.) It is unknown whether or not Torricelli used GSU computers for this purpose.

Torricelli was released on \$50,000 bail last Wednesday. If convicted, he faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine each for the credit card fraud and password possession charges; five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine on the password interception charges; and one year in prison and a \$100,000 fine on each of the two charges involving the access of the JPL computers.

SOAR students display different attitudes

By John Bryson
News Editor

Do you remember the day you first came to Georgia Southern for your SOAR session? Well, the event is still fresh on the minds of the more than 3000 upcoming freshmen who have attended over the summer.

Many of them have dreams of college life on their minds and are hoping that GSU will open a new chapter in their lives.

They talk of new homes, new roommates, "hard" schedules and exploring the social life here in Statesboro. While they know it won't be a breeze, they are ready to discover a new world.

These students, who over the course of two days are taken through orientation, advisement and registration, appear ready to bring a new type of student here

to campus.

"SOAR has been good for me so far," Erin Debose, an upcoming freshman from Lithonia, said. "I've met a lot of new people. I think GSU will be challenging and fun for me. I think it's gonna change my responsibilities."

Many of the students, like Erin, feel that the challenge college will present to them is something they are ready for in their lives.

"I'm coming here to learn," John Marsh, Dallas, Ga., said. "This is a fun place to be and it's a great learning environment."

In addition, some students come to GSU in preparation for a transfer to another school such as Georgia Tech.

"I came here because of the Georgia Tech cooperative program," Michael Torrance,

Vidalia, Ga., said. "Plus it's more laid back here than it is at Georgia Tech and Atlanta."

Some new students even admitted they will be swayed by the pressures of partying and alcohol.

"I'll probably party a lot 1st semester," Tommy Jernigan, Lawrenceville, Ga., said. "After that, I'm gonna have to calm down. But I probably will have to get it out of my system when I first get down here."

What has become quite clear is that this year's freshman class will have students ripe with diversity of opinion and ability.

However, it should be noted that only one of the students interviewed for this story could name any of the football players for GSU. Not even Adrian Peterson. Guess there is always room for improvement.

GSU football team prepares for upcoming season

By Doug Kidd
Senior Sports Writer

After an off-season of celebrating their 1999 national championship, the GSU football team now find themselves readying for another run for a mid-December showdown in Chattanooga.

With just 44 days until the season-opener against pre-season SEC favorite UGA, the Eagles are only two weeks away from having their first players arrive in Statesboro when freshman report Monday, August 7.

GSU will be hard pressed this pre-season to find replacements for stars from last season's 13-2 team. Gone are such mainstays as Greg Hill, Mark Williams, Rich McGrath, Cherard Freeman and Bennie Cunningham on offense and Vonnellies Allen, Eugene Phillips, Earthwind Moreland, Kiwaukee

Thomas and Arkee Thompson on defense. Also gone from the 1999 squad is place kicker Chris Chambers.

Hit hardest from graduation were the offensive and defensive lines. With All-SoCon performers Williams and McGrath gone, not to mention starter Brian Scott, GSU will be looking for replacements for three-fifths of an offensive line that led the nation in rush offense (419 yards per game), total offense (552 ypg) and scoring (50 points per game). Looking to replace these starters are seniors Anthony Scott and Dietrich Everett and sophomore Charles Clarke, all of whom found themselves atop the depth chart following a solid spring.

Finding players as good as the ones that they are replacing from last season will also be a problem on the defensive side of the ball. Graduated are Allen and Phillips,

who last season combined for 47 tackles for losses in fifteen games. But coming back for the Eagles are defensive tackles Robert LeBlanc and Freddy Pesqueira who, as a true freshman on in 1999 were second on the squad in tackles with 104 and first in sacks with 10. Sophomore Tyrie Williams is penciled in as Allen's replacement at nose tackle after spring practice.

As freshman report in a couple of weeks Coach Paul Johnson and his staff are sure to take a long look to see who, if any, of the linemen will get an opportunity to play in their initial season as Pesqueira and Clarke did in '99. Some candidates for 2000 might be defensive linemen Eric McIntire, Carlton Oglesby and Victor Cabral and offensive linemen Nick Heuman and junior-college transfer Josh Jones.

SOAR small groups at work...



John Bryson

Future Freshmen: These upcoming freshmen met in small groups during orientation to help to acquaint themselves with the campus, as well as their future classmates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Things To Do at GSU Ongoing

•More than 2,000 tickets will be available for students to purchase beginning August 19 from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Paulson Stadium to the GSU vs. Georgia football game. All students who are enrolled in the 2000-2001 academic year will be served on a first-come, first-serve basis. They will also be allowed to purchase two tickets each with proof of a current I.D.

•Free Tutoring in several subjects: English, history, sociology and psychology, all maths, chemistry, biology, and college

reading/study skills. Each subject has different hours of operation. Call 681-0321 for more information.

•The Christian Faculty/Staff meets every Monday at noon in the Russell Union Room 2044.

•The NAACP meets every Monday at 6 p.m. in the Russell Union Room 2047.

•BSU meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at 401 Chandler Rd. across from Johnson Hall. BSU also has lunch every Wednesday from 12 to 1 p.m.

•GSU Chapter of Habitat for Humanity meets every Tuesday at 5:30

p.m. in the Russell Union Room 2044.

•The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m. in the Technology Building Room 2116.

July 25

•"Retirement Plans for Small Business" seminar will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in Russell Union room 2084. The program is offered by the University's Small Business Development Center and Merrill Lynch. Fee is \$19 and those interested should call 681-5194.

POLICE BEAT

GSU Public Safety July 4

•Jaunice Gaines, 24, 475 Clarence Smith Road, Ellabel, was charged with obstruction of an officer, attempting to elude, too fast for conditions and failure to maintain lane.

•Ronald Estes Doublerly, Jr., 36, 156 Clifton Road, Brooklet, was charged with DUI (.155), driving with a suspended license and failure to maintain lane.

July 5

•Jessie Drell Lawrence, 37, 526 Kyle Sorrell Road, was charged with DUI (.184), driving with a suspended license and failure to maintain lane.

•Katherine Anderson reported that someone scratched the passenger side of her vehicle with a sharp object in the Landrum Center parking lot.

•Christie Durrence reported two hubcaps were taken from her vehicle in the Henderson Library parking lot.

July 7

•Joseph Grey Goodwin, 19, 7 Mesa Avenue, Bloomingdale, was charged with DUI (.073) and weaving.

July 8

•Emmett Graham Renfro III, 990 Milledge Avenue, Athens, was charged with DUI (.189), possession of marijuana and improper parking.

July 11

•Rikki Joyce Sellers, 23, 210 Pine View Avenue, Baxley, was charged with DUI (.159) and improper lane usage.

•Stacey Lynn Stobaugh, 18, 244 Windsor Drive, Lawrenceville, was charged with DUI (.083) and making an improper turn.

July 14

•John Travis Roberts, 19, 415 Whitehall Lane, Richmond Hill, was charged with DUI (.169), driving with a suspended license and failure to maintain lane.

•Elias Gabriel Mesones, 20, Ft. Stewart, was charged with DUI (.110) and failure to maintain lane.

•Matthew Allen Kubicek, 20, Ft. Stewart, was charged with DUI (.096) and failure to maintain lane.

July 15

•Jessica Marie Wing, 22, 1710 Kings

Way, Savannah, was charged with DUI (.238) and failure to maintain lane.

•Emily Marie Cole, 20, 1699 Statesboro Place, was charged with DUI (.182) and failure to maintain lane.

July 16

•Rico Rodriguez Grant, 23, 215 Knight Drive, was charged with DUI (.130), driving with a suspended license and making an improper turn.

•Robert Thomas Jaekel, 20, 19 Greenwood Avenue, was charged with DUI (.223), possession of a fraudulent license and failure to maintain lane.

Editor's Note: Police Beat appears in every issue of the George-Anne in an effort to inform the GSU community of the amount, nature and location of crime. All reports are public information and can be obtained from the GSU Division of Public Safety or at the Statesboro Police Department.

—All Police Beat information is compiled by John Bryson, news editor.

Thank you for reading the summer edition of the George-Anne. The next edition will come out on August 16!

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NATIONAL NEWS BRIEF

Colleges face shortage of professors

TMS Campus

Los Angeles, Ca. - Faced with a large enrollment surge from the children of Baby Boomers and a flurry of expected retirements, colleges and universities across the nation are bracing for a shortage of tens of thousands of professors.

Education experts are predicting that overall college enrollment will rise by 2 million to 16 million students over the next decade.

No one has an exact figure on the number of faculty positions that will open over the next decade, but with an average 20-1 faculty-student ratio, the figure could reach an estimated 100,000 positions.

The college faculty crunch comes at a time when elementary and secondary schools are encountering their own teacher shortages and when all schools are facing intense public pressure to raise the quality of education.

Experts say the competition for faculty could create a sellers market, which in turn

could drive up salaries, exacerbating universities' current practice of hiring more part-time and non-tenured professors and forcing institutions to introduce more independent study courses to reach more students with fewer instructors.

In the 1960s and 1970s, enrollment also

surged when millions of Baby Boomers flooded the nation's colleges and universities. Back then, schools responded by building new campuses, expanding curricula and hiring new professors.

Now tens of thousands of those professors have reached their 50s, 60s and 70s and are nearing retirement, according to the Project on Faculty Appointments at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education. Though colleges and universities banned mandatory retirement in 1994, one-third of the nation's faculty is 55 and older compared to one-fourth a decade ago.

If the hot job market and lure of Internet start-ups continue, finding enough qualified faculty to replace retirees and to meet future demand could be much tougher this time around, some experts said.

During the first boom, "we didn't have

the acute competition from the private sector," said Patrick Callan, president of the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, a think tank in San Jose, Calif.

"The competitive impact is strong," Callan added. "But in California, [the problem of hiring new faculty] is more pro-

"AT LEAST 17 STATES SAID THEY ARE CONSIDERING NEW INITIATIVES ON (FACULTY) SUPPLY AND DEMAND,"

- ALENE RUSSELL,

STATE HIGHER EDUCATION

U.S. has risen to 2.8 million this year from 2.3 million in 1985, according to the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education in Boulder, Colo. The population is expected to reach 3.2 million by 2008.

Moreover, the number of so-called non-traditional students—adults 25 and older—has been climbing rapidly.

Illinois' college enrollment is expected to grow a modest 87,000 by 2020, according to the state's Board of Higher Education. Unlike the first boom in the 1960s, which was spread throughout the country, this second wave will be concentrated in 20 states mainly in the West, Pacific Northwest, Southwest and South.

A survey conducted by the State Higher Education Executive Officers showed that college officials considered attracting and retaining professors and maintaining competitive salaries for faculty their No. 2 and No. 3 most important issues.

"At least 17 states said they are considering new initiatives on [faculty] supply and demand," said Alene Russell, senior research associate for the Denver organization, which represents higher education boards in all 50 states.

In Arizona, where college enrollment is expected to grow to 120,000 in 10 years from 105,000, Gov. Jane Hull recently signed legislation placing a proposition on the November ballot that would increase higher-education spending by \$40 million a year. A large portion of that money, according to Arizona education officials, would be used to address future faculty shortages.

The huge demand for top-notch research faculty by Arizona, California, Texas and Florida could intensify competition among institutions and draw away talent from other states. Thus, even states with low shortages are studying how they can prevent a brain drain.

"Maryland is seeking more state funds to attract and retain faculty," Russell added. "North Dakota is making recommendations on how to get more money for faculty salaries, and Maine is looking into bringing its university salaries in line with salaries of similar institutions."

Still, higher education experts say that the low supply and high demand for faculty won't necessarily spur across-the-board raises or reverse the 1990s trend in which institutions began relying more on part-time, non-tenured professors.

Salaries and perks may rise significantly for faculty in engineering, computer science and other popular fields in which professors already are in short supply, they said. Salaries are expected to remain flat for humanities and social science professors. Because no one can predict what the hot jobs will be in 10 years, university officials think temporary and non-tenured positions offer them greater flexibility in deploying faculty as demand dictates.

"My suspicion is we'll have to use temporary faculty more until we can catch up," said Ellen Switkes, assistant vice president for academic advancement for the University of California system. University of California officials are projecting they will need 7,000 new professors.

"Temporary staff can help us while we're

taking a look at what we can expect in the future," she added.

Faculty groups at the University of California, California State University and the community colleges have proposed several ideas to attract new professors: boosting salaries, offering free tuition to family members of faculty and providing mortgage assistance programs.

But some university officials and experts

say the institutions likely will not be able to fill the shortage completely.

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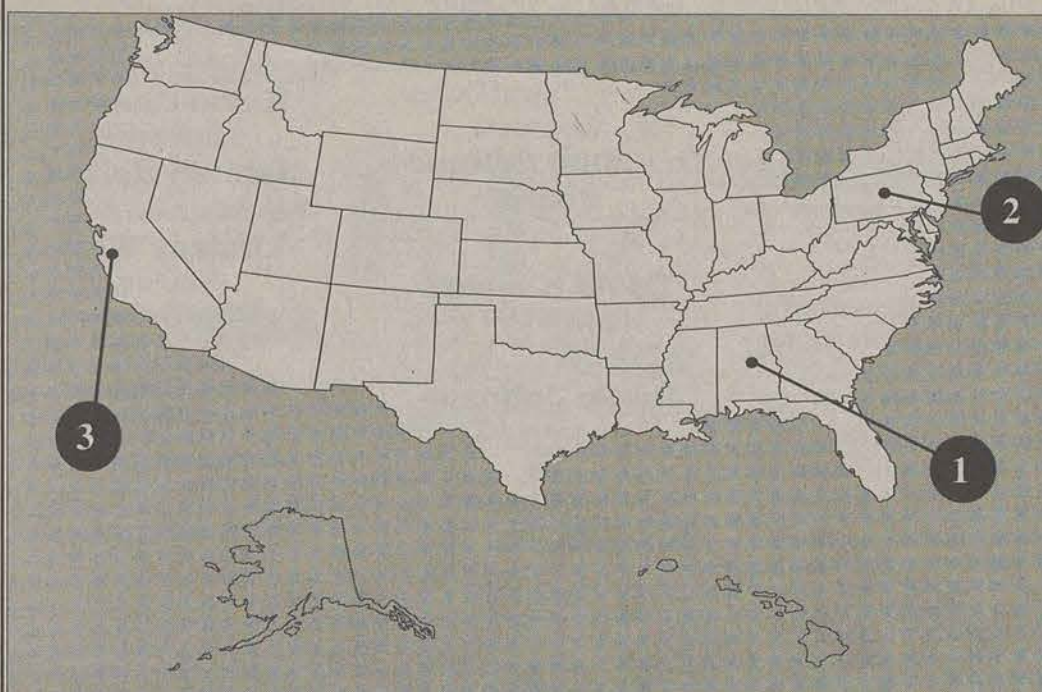
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ONLY IN AMERICA...



1 Alabama

Rooster serves as fire station mascot

The Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - The volunteer fire station in the Nicol community has something to crow about — a speckled black and white chicken named Allen Jr.

The station adopted the "Dalmatian rooster" as something of a joke, but it has gotten friends of a feather laughing and sending donations from around the country.

Donations have included a fire truck, hoses, nozzles, lights, radios and other supplies totaling almost \$10,000.

"We have had people call from Chicago, New York, Florida, Virginia and many other places all wanting to know how Allen Jr. is doing," said Gaston Wilson, assistant fire chief.

About a year ago, visitors to Nicol from a Chicago fire hall bragged about an amazing Dalmatian that practically drives the fire truck at their station.

The tall tale prompted a Nicole firefighter to grab the black and white chicken and proclaimed it Nicol's Dalmatian rooster. The rest is chicken history.

The volunteer agency earned the motto "Home of the Dalmatian chicken, we got you under our wing." Word spread through several national poultry publications.

Wilson said he's amazed that there is still interest in the mascot rooster more than a year after The Tuscaloosa News first ran a story on the feathered firefighter.

Other fire departments have considered borrowing or stealing the chicken to help in their fund raising. Officials from other departments have told Fire Chief Allen Sullivan they

might kidnap Allen Jr. and hold him for ransom to raise money.

Unfortunately for them, Allen Jr. is now under protective custody at an undisclosed chicken coop.

2 Pennsylvania

Couple plants garden on roof

BUSHKILL, Pa. - Tony and Sue Donato are happy to have their neighbors help themselves to vegetables from their garden — the two-legged neighbors, that is.

Deer, chipmunks and squirrels were eating the crops. So the Donatos tried putting some of the vegetables on the roof of their small backyard tool shed.

Until the deer learn how to use a ladder, the crops appear to be safe.

Not only are they safe, but they're growing well.

"The plants are doing a lot better now than they were before," said Tony Donato, 76, inspecting his crop. The shed roof is slanted, so the plants are on level boards on stilts, which keeps the water in the pots. The zucchini, watermelon, cucumber, tomato, cherry, corn and eggplants are safe.

"People can't get over it whenever they come and see," Donato said. "They're like, 'How do you get up there?' 'With a ladder,' I say. At my age, I gotta do something to keep active."

Another part of the vegetable garden, against the back of the house, is elevated surrounded by a two-foot-high sectioned fence. A half-foot-tall mesh fence along the base of the elevated garden keeps chipmunks from digging under.

The Donatos have used the more conventional plant protection idea, the fence, with their flowers in the front yard of their home in the Poconos.

"When we first got here, we had some beautiful roses, but the deer ate

them all," Sue Donato said. Now they have fences around the azaleas and other flowers in the front yard. Even the Donatos' garage has a waist-high fence to keep out animals.

"The deer still come around, but they don't get much," Tony Donato said. "They just nibble and run."

But the Donato's human neighbors and visitors can get more than just a nibble of fried zucchini and other home-grown treats.

3 California

Man sentenced to prison for assaulting sheep

EL CAJON, Calif. - A San Diego County man was sentenced Monday to more than three years in prison for sexually assaulting sheep at a high school livestock pen, causing the deaths of two of the animals.

James Donald Ray, 39, was found guilty in May of three felony counts of cruelty to animals and three misdemeanor charges of sexually assaulting an animal.

At his trial, Ray admitted to assaulting the sheep and other animals in the past but claimed he didn't kill the two sheep and believed the sex was consensual, public defender Debby Kirkwood said.

"He didn't he think he was hurting the animals," Kirkwood said.

Ray's sentence of three years and four months in prison was fair, Kirkwood said, adding that her client has some psychological problems. She declined to elaborate.

Ray was arrested July 31, 1999, at the livestock pen run by the Future Farmers of America chapter of El Capitan High School in Lakeside, 25 miles northeast of San Diego.

Authorities began investigating after students found one of the sheep injured from an apparent sexual assault.

Colleges can release info on students' drinking, drug use to parents

TMS Campus

Colleges and Universities will have increased freedom release information about student's discipline history and to notify parents if a student under the age of 21 is caught drinking or using illegal drugs on campus, under final regulations issued by the U.S. Education department.

The amendments to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) go into effect Aug. 7 and carry out the Higher Education Amendments made by Congress in 1998.

Under the amendments, colleges will now be able to inform parents and legal guardians if a student under the age of 21 has been caught drink-

ing alcohol on campus or using illegal drugs. Previously, colleges were required to prove that the student was financially dependent before reporting the crimes to the parents or guardians.

Colleges will also be allowed to release the final results of on-campus disciplinary proceedings where students were found guilty of sex crimes or violent crimes.

Additionally, colleges will also be able to release education records to a court without a parent or student's consent and without notification — if a parent or student has brought a lawsuit against the college.

The recent amendments allow schools to release the records at their own discretion. Schools that con-

tinue to withhold that information are not violating federal law.

The recent amendments continue to chip away at information universities can withhold under FERPA, which U.S. Congress passed in 1974.

A federal act was passed in 1992 that allowed school administrators to release annual reports on campus crime and allowed them to release incident reports kept by campus police.

Daniel Carter, vice president of college safety watchdog group Security On Campus, is glad to see inroads on FERPA, which does more to deter student safety than protect it, he said.

"This is a positive step in helping to get crime information out there," he said.

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For as long as the staff of this paper can remember (which in some cases is WAY too long), students have not had the ability to choose which soft drink they prefer. This is clearly unacceptable.

There may be those among us, albeit a minority, who simply do not enjoy Coca-Cola and wish to quench their thirst with the great taste of something better, namely Pepsi.

Our Opinion

Why should we be denied the right to drink a soda that is the "choice of the next generation" and has blessed our nation with the "joy of cola?"

Sure, Coke has done many things here in Georgia and their presence in the state is undeniably strong. But do we owe that much to Coke to cut out their competitor from squeezing into the "huge" market that is to be had here on campus.

There is probably some kind of deal between the campus and Coke to grant the giants from Atlanta a virtual monopoly over our tastebuds in return for a modest fee. Is the money generated from that deal worth denying the minority the right to choose their soft drink beverage of choice? NO!

In fact, this practice is downright communist!!!

So, the George-Anne encourages all students and faculty members to rise up against the tyranny of Coca-Cola and demand their right to something better!

Call President Grube's office. Tell him, even if you are a Coke aficionado, that everyone has the right to choose what they wish to drink and you find it highly insulting that the school would force you to choose the products of one company over another in exchange for money!!! (We, of course, say this all tongue-in-cheek. If you really do rise up, we are not responsible for the ensuing carnage!!)

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The Killing Fields?

It has been a while since I have tread the murky waters of Election 2000, so I thought I would look for something interesting to write about. No luck; this year's election is about as exciting as watching my mother fold my daddy's boxers.

"What," I thought, "can I provide some satirical insight about?" I looked and looked, reading article after article, combing through magazine after magazine, with absolutely no luck. I searched the archives of the nationally syndicated columnist Dave Barry. Again, as fate would have it, I came up with nothing.

The thought of Al Gore or George Bush, Jr. being our next president is more along the lines of "The Scary Movie" rather than comic relief, though most of the world's leaders are, no doubt, laughing their way to breakfast over this period in United States politics.

However, ever the diligent columnist, eager to provide our readers with something, anything at all, I stumbled across a subject that sums up the above commentary. The subject is the death penalty, and what I found out is indeed fascinating, if not scary.

We all know the stances of the two candidates on this issue, both proponents of this "fail-safe" method of curbing violent crime. However, what I was unaware of was that George Bush, Jr. is not only a proponent of the death penalty, he is the WORLD LEADER in following through on his promise to rid Texas, and the country, of these violent criminals.

The "Did you know?" section of CNN has not even broadcast this information, and I think I know why. Does the book, "The Pelican Brief", refresh your memory?

On Wednesday, July 12, 2000, Texas ended the life of yet another convicted killer, though he too was still professing his innocence. Cecil Orien Joiner, sentenced to die on December 17, 1986, fourteen years ago, was finally executed by means of lethal injection, the second such execution in Texas in 20 days.

However, this is not subject of my concern. It is the number of executions ordered by Bush that is alarming.

Since resuming capital punishment in 1982, six years after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down

a national ban on capital punishment, that state has sent 224 people to the death chamber, an average of 12.4 per year. Sounds like a lot, doesn't it? Well consider further that, of those, 137 have been carried out under the "leadership" of Bush.

Let me repeat that. George Bush, though not presiding over them directly, has approved the execution of 137 people, or, approximately 61% of the executions in Texas since 1982. Can you say "God complex?"

Not alarming enough? Then ponder, if you will, that this totals more than Saddam Hussein, Yasser Arafat, John Gotti, and the country of Canada combined.

Still not concerned? Mull this over: Texas has scheduled one more execution in July and another six in August, two of which are slated for the same night, August 9th.

What? Do they base the executioner's salary in Texas on a monthly quota system!? Sorry, Mr. Bush, but surely you must realize yours is not the only state with overcrowded prisons. Is it?

No, being in favor of capital punishment is not my concern here. The frequency of this type of sentence being carried out in Bush's relatively short term of office is. The sheer number, or proportion of these sentences being administered during his tenure is what is most alarming to me. I mean, c'mon, Bush has ordered more people killed than John Gotti, or Saddam Hussein?

Does this raise a red flag for anyone else in this country? Or, as is the case with so many other issues, is the level of apathy just as astronomical regarding this subject as well?

Who you may vote for in the coming election is your decision. So be it. But do we truly consider an individual's qualifications to head the most powerful office on earth?

I don't know about you, but voting for a man whose resume is highlighted with a section stating, "Killed more people than 28 other governors combined," scares me, yep, to death.

Randy Dobson is a senior at GSU and can be reached at redobson@bulloch.net, but if you email him, he WILL refer you to his secretary, George Bush, Jr.



RANDY DOBSON

Why Students Can't Add Or Subtract

Guest Columnist
Andrew Bernstein

Imagine that your child comes home from school one day and announces that in his math course there are no textbooks, no teaching and no right answers. Instead, students form groups to construct their own math "strategies."

They add fractions by folding paper strips, without ever learning how to convert to common denominators. They measure angles not with protractors but by means of bent straws. They are not taught to multiply or divide; rather, they are told to rely on calculators. Your child further tells you that even the idea that a math problem has an objectively right answer has now been discarded. On tests, students receive high grades if they "wrestle diligently" with the problems, even if their answers are wrong. Most parents would be horrified at such "dumbing down" of math instruction. Yet this is what constitutes the new math education in our public schools today. The new math guidelines explicitly disparage rigorous "paper and pencil computation" as an outdated attempt to find correct answers.

Students are encouraged to "explore and conjecture," to "guess and

check" — rather than to use strict rules of multiplication or division to figure out the answers precisely. Not surprisingly, many parents claim that children are now confused. Tutoring services report an epidemic of students coming to them to learn arithmetic.

dog ate from his bowl," and the student guesses "dish" instead of "bowl," the student is praised for making a "good guess." Similarly, the new math neither teaches nor permits the student to perform rigorous calculation. He must work with his class-

metic. But there is a still more tragic result.

The student's cognitive capacity has been stunted. Unable to deal with words or with numbers — having no means of knowing, but only of guessing — the child loses confidence in his mind. He loses confidence in his ability to deal rationally with reality. Unable to think, he is not qualified for college, for a demanding career — or even to make change at a checkout counter. With his mind crippled, the abysmally low self-esteem he experiences is inevitable. Rage, violence and widespread drug use are possible consequences.

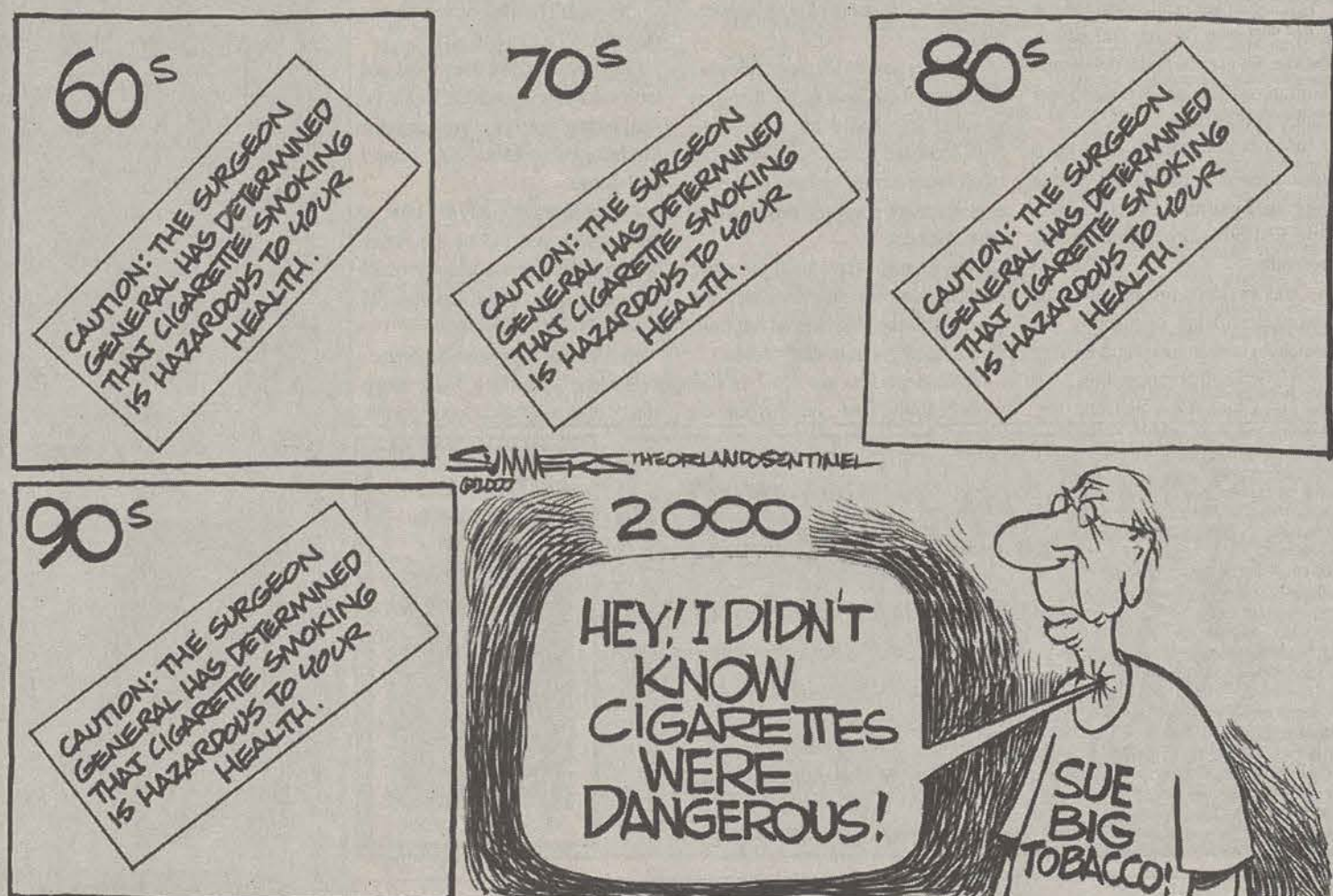
Today's educators are creating individuals who cannot think independently. They cannot question authority. They can only mindlessly obey. They can only melt into groups and subordinate themselves to the consensus. They are ripe for political indoctrination. The chilling truth is that this assault on our children's minds is characteristic of a totalitarian state, not a free society. Parents don't realize it, but this brain-mangling method of teaching has consequences far beyond mathematics. The solution to this disaster is for the schools to emphasize that there are right and wrong answers — and to teach the student the precise means of arriving at them.

-AMERICAN STUDENTS NEVER LEARN TO READ, WRITE OR UNDERSTAND ARITHMETIC.

Professional mathematicians are alarmed over declining U.S. math scores and point out that students in European and Asian countries — where they still teach basic math content — tend to score significantly higher than Americans on standardized tests. One recent test in mathematics literacy showed American high school seniors ranking 18th out of 21 nations. The new math is sadly similar to the "look-say" method widely used in the attempt to teach reading. In that method, children are not taught to sound out a word phonetically. Rather, they look at its shape and guess its identity by means of the surrounding context. So if a sentence states, "The

mates to devise techniques that will help them guess at the answer.

If the answer is wrong, he is taught neither the correct answer nor a proper method of understanding it. Rather, he is praised for devising a "viable" mathematical strategy. Students will be complimented for collecting 13 piles of 13 objects (more or less) in an attempt to answer the problem of "13 X 13" — even if they arrive at an answer other than 169. Since the students don't learn the multiplication tables, they are lost when working with large numbers. Given these "educational" methods, it is clear why many American students never learn to read, write or understand arith-



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Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Thrashers first-round pick will return to Wisconsin for senior season

TMS Campus

Dany Heatley will remain a Wisconsin Badger for a second season. The 19-year-old has decided to temporarily forgo a move to the NHL, after being drafted as the second pick overall in the 2000 NHL draft by the Atlanta Thrashers, to play his sophomore season in Wisconsin.

The return is good news for Badger fans: On the weight of a 28-goal, 28-assist season for the Badgers topping all collegiate rookies in both categories Heatley was named a second-team all-American for 1999. He was also awarded Rookie of the Year honors by the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) helping the UW team to a first-place finish in WCHA polls at season's end.

Heatley was unavailable for comment Thursday, but his indecision had become apparent in recent days, saying in an interview posted July 12 on the Thrasher's site, "I know the Thrashers will be doing what's best for me. I can see where another season at Wisconsin can do my game a lot of good."

He continued, "But I can also see the benefits of beginning my pro career, especially with the opportunity here with a young franchise."

The decision by Heatley to put off entering the NHL was not wholly un-

level. Being an expansion team, and probably having more losses than wins next year, he could probably only take baby steps towards being the player he will be someday," the same spokesman noted. The Thrashers played their inaugural season in 1999-2000, posting a record of 14 wins, 61 losses, and 7 ties.

If Heatley decides to turn pro after his sophomore year at the UW, the Thrashers would retain their rights to sign a contract with him, according to NHL rules. To maintain his college eligibility for the upcoming year, Heatley paid for a trip to Atlanta out of his own pocket, and abstained

from signing a contract with a sports agent.

Heatley, a Calgary, Alberta resident who was born in Germany, was the highest draft choice ever taken from the UW, only the fourth Badger ever to be selected in the first round. The University has produced notable NHL players Mike Richter, Curtis Joseph, and Chris Chelios among others.

"I KNOW THE THRASHERS WILL BE DOING WHAT'S BEST FOR ME. I CAN SEE WHERE ANOTHER SEASON AT WISCONSIN CAN DO MY GAME A LOT OF GOOD."

- THRASHERS DRAFT PICK

DANY HEATLEY

expected by Thrasher team officials, either.

"Initially our thought when drafting him was, 'he'll be back in school another year'" a team spokesman said, noting also that the strength of Wisconsin's program and its competition will help Heatley develop physically as a player.

"We think that he will make big steps to improve playing at the college

NCAA to keep current bats and balls

• Pending additional testing, more changes could be made

TMS Campus

The NCAA will await the outcome of more field-testing before changing the specifications that were placed on the bats and baseballs used in collegiate play prior to the 2000 season.

Prompted by excessive offensive production and injuries caused by hard line drives in the years between 1995 through 1999 two collegiate pitchers suffered broken jaws in the 1999 NCAA tournament

from hits they were unable to avoid the NCAA began using baseballs and bats that were less lively in the 2000 season.

Under regulations, bats and baseballs are manufactured within strict performance guidelines one such guideline states that balls should be able to travel at no

Baseball Rules Committee said in a statement issued Tuesday, "The bottom line is that two years ago, coaches were calling members of the committee to say that something was wrong and we needed to make some specifications for the bats."

He compared their remarks to the present day scenario, saying, "After this season... those coaches were calling to say they liked how the game was played this year."

Despite this positive reaction, The NCAA wants to get more on-field feed-

DESPITE THIS POSITIVE REACTION, THE NCAA WANTS TO GET MORE ON-FIELD FEEDBACK TO DETERMINE IF THE MOVE WAS A WISE ONE.

more than 97 mph when struck. Bats that can hit baseballs in excess of this speed have been disallowed for collegiate play.

A rigorous testing process is in place requiring all bat models to be pre-approved for use by undergoing tests at laboratories the University at Massachusetts at Lowell's Baseball Research Center utilizes.

Feedback on the 2000 season has been generally favorable. Don Kessinger, University of Mississippi associate athletics director, and head of the NCAA's

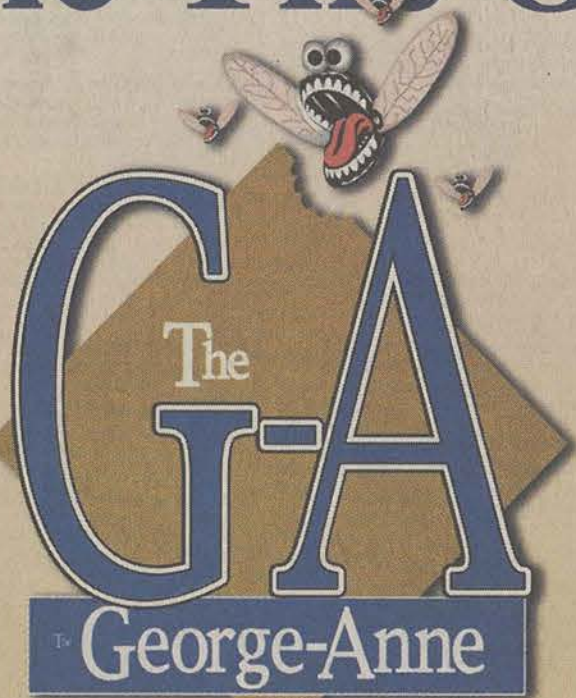
back to determine if the move was a wise one.

Even with the tamer bats and baseballs, the danger of serious injury still exists. Three weeks ago, University of Arizona infielder Kelsey Osburn was struck in the head with a line drive while running bases in summer league practice in Rochester, NY. The ball hit with an NCAA compliant bat put Osburn into a coma three weeks ago. As of Friday, Osburn was still in a coma after undergoing surgery.

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